है ताकि यह चालू वित्त-वर्ष के प्रारंभ से प्रभावी हो सके । विद्यमान परिवार पेंशन योजना के अन्तर्गत आने वाले कर्मचारी व अन्य, जो इस प्रस्तावित पेंशन योजना को अपनाना चाहें, इस योजना में शामिल किये जायेंगे ।

Poor state of PDS in North-Eastern States

*6. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the severe shortcomings in the Public Distribution System in the North-eastern states;

(b) whether the inferior quality of foodgrains and inadequate storage facilities are adding to the problems of the region; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard to ensure the adequate supply of essential commodities and foodgrains to the North-eastern states?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) The entire requirement of foodgrains and other PDS commodities for the North-Eastern States is being transported from outside this region by rail and road. The long distances involved coupled with the difficult terrain etc. do cause difficulties for the Public Distribution system in this region. It is not true that inferior quality of foodgrains are being supplied to the North-Eastern States. Central Government has taken a number of steps to improve the supplies for the Public Distribution System in the North-Eastern States.

The Food Corporation of India makes efforts to keep adequate stocks in the region to meet contingent requirements during the monsoon season. Priority has been given for creation of adequate storage infrastructure by the FCI in the North-Eastern States. Central Government provides financial assistance to State Governments for creation of storage capacity in Revamped PDS areas and all North Eastern States on liberal terms. Similar assistance is also given to the State Governments for purchase of vans which could be used either as mobile fair price shops or for transportation of PDS commodities to the door step of the fair price shops.

The functioning of PDS in North-Eastern States is reviewed from time to time in consultation with the concerned States.

Formation of workers' Co-operatives to run sick units

*7. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has expressed his disappointment over failure of trade unions and workers connected with sick industries in the public sector to come forward and form workers' co-operatives to revive sick and closed units;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the formation of Workers Co operative, if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Banks and creditor's liabilities over sick and closed units are proposed to be suspended;

(d) what are the conditions for handing over sick and closed units to workers; and

(e) whether Government propose to hand over these sick units to workers' co-operatives formed by the unemployed workers of other units in case workers belonging to connected sick industries re-

fuse to run sick units by forming their own co-operatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (e) In the meeting of the Special Tripartite Committee held on 20.1.1992 certain Central Trade Union Organisations suggested setting up of workers' cooperatives by the workers voluntarily investing in the equity share of the sick public sector companies. However, no proposal has been received in the Ministry of Labour from any Trade Union or group of workers of any sick public sector unit for running the unit by forming workers' cooperative.

Ministry of Labour has not worked out any general scheme for workeds' cooperative for running sick units. It is mandatory for the management of a sick public sector countdy to refer the case to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as per the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. Revival of sick industrial companies through workers' cooperatives is one of the measures feasible under the Act. Proposals of workers for revival of sick industrial companies, whenever received, are considered on merits by the BIFR. Suspension of Banks and creditors liabilities of individual sick units is a matter to be considered as part of rehabilitation proposals before BIFR after opportunities are given to the creditor institutions concerned.

Demand for pension as a third retirement benefit

*8. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have turned down the employees' demand for providing pension as a third retirement benefit besides GPF and gratuity to the workers, including journalists;

(b) if so, what was the precise demand of the employees; and

(c) what is the ground on which the same has been turned down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) Some individuals/ trade unions have demanded provision of Pension as a third benefit in addition to the contributory Provident Fund. The Government has not favoured functioning of both the CPF and Pension scheme simultaneosuly as they are mutually exclusive. Therefore, the question of providing pension as a third benefit to the EPF subscribers does not arise.

Correlations-between income and supplies under PDS

*9. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a correlation between the per capita income and per capita supplies under public distribution system in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the richer States have accounted for a larger share in the Public Distribution System; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFARIS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Allocations of PDS Commodities to States/UTs are not made on the basis of per capita income. The Central Government makes bulk allocation of commodities such as rice, wheat, kerosene, soft coke and imported edible oils to the State Government/UT Administrations taking into account the position of stocks in Central Pool, inter-se requirements of States/UTs and seasonal factors. Levy sugar allocation is generally made on a uniform norm of 425 gms. per capita monthly availability to the projected population as on 1.10.1986. A 5% adhoc increase in the levy sugar allocation was granted to States/UTs from